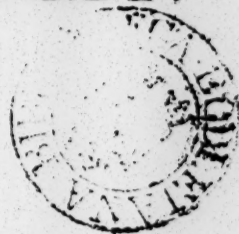


THE DECLARATION

THE LORD GENERAL OF THE ARMY OF THE CONFEDERAT CATHOLICKS IN THE PROVINCE OF LEINSTER.



Hereas vpon the late Designe on Dublin I was transported with a particular desire of aduancing his Majesties seruice, and preserving those Parts from the destruction that commonly waits on the chance of warre, to entertaine with the Lord Marquesse of Clanrickard not doubting to obtaine by his Lord- means, such conditions for the Confederat Catholicks, as might render the Kingdome satisfied, And after some time spent in the consideration of the con- of that engagement, I acquainted the Councell and Congregation therewith, on a more strict Examination thereof, hauing taken to consideration the law in against Catholick Religion in this Kingdome found the contents of that enga- in many essentiall points to be short of the libertie and freedome requisit in free exercise of the Catholick Religion, and the safetie of the liues and fortunes of Confederat Catholicks, as by the Councell and Congregations obseruations on that engagement may more evidently appeare, upon aduertisement whereof I held my selfe bound by the oath of vnion which I had sworne, and by the faith I ought to the Na- to recede from the treaty, if the obiections against that Engagement were not satis- by enlargement of further Grants that might satisfie the Councell and Congrega- And moreouer to take from me all hopes of any Conclusion that way, I found contrary to the said engagement a resolution was taken not to receiue any of the vnder my command to Garizon in Dublin and other principall Garizons vnder Majesties obedience that being the chiefe point granted me for the securitie of the engagement, so as I mainly mistrusted there was no good intention towards the Confederat Catholicks either in the matters granted or in the securitie thereof, seeing in the uery first entrance an apparent breach of the promise contained in that engagement, so as it stood neither with honor nor securitie I should rely on that enga- ment. Being therefore compelled to desist from further proceeding therein, ac- cordingly withdrew the forces vnder my command to the Quarters designed for them by order of the Councell and Congregation. yet least any should be misled by an opi- nion of the continuance of that Treatie or any conclusion thereupon, I thought good in finding any thing in the whole conduct of that affaire whereby the innocency of the actions may not be generally acknowledged) to publish this declaration, that all the Confederat Catholicks may be thereby forewarned to stand on their owne defence against the aduerse Party, and not to insist or rely on any Conditions but, such as by authority of the Councell and Congregation, or of the Generall Assembly shall be set- tled, that being the whole scope of my intention in the late treaty, notwithstanding any construction to the Contrary, which I desire may beyso vnderstood, whereby the perfect vnion of the Confederate Catholikes may have full settlement, and my in- tention hereby declared not to adhere to any other resolution or Vnion. Waterford
22.th of December 1646.

T. PRESTON.

Given by Commaund of the Councell and Congregation in the yeare 1646.